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books with that heap of writings which are usually denominated "apocalyptic," yet it must be granted that such a method of interpretation as the "descriptive" is out of keeping with them as having characteristics similar, though in a higher degree, to those other writings. Reference will be made later to the purely historical theory which sees in the book only closely related events which it needed no predictive power to discover.

This is a bold and cogent negative to the views of the Apocalypse which are maintained by Prof. Milligan of Aberdeen in his various writings on this Scripture. While that theory delivers us from fanatic and outrageous misinterpretations of the mysterious symbolism, it seems to fail adequately to account for the peculiar structure and style which characterize the Apocalypse.

Book Notices.

The Epistle to the Romans.

Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans. By Rev. D. B. Ford. An American Commentary on the New Testament. Edited by Alvah Hovey, D.D. Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society.

In the preface of this volume the information is given that the manuscript notes of the Rev. A. N. Arnold upon the Epistle were handed over to the author for revision and amplification. Without working them over, Mr. Ford has inserted them bodily into his book and has added his annotations in brackets. The result cannot be pronounced especially satisfactory. The two interpreters do not always agree and the spectacle is presented of a divergence of view which is somewhat exasperating to the reader. The additions of the present editor do not seem as valuable as they might have been. They are often long drawn out enlargements of what has been compactly and succinctly stated in Dr. Arnold's comments. Commentators of all ranks and conditions are cited as authority and abundant excerpts on either side of a disputed question are given. There are certain advantages in this method, but they are overbalanced by the obvious disadvantage that the commentary loses any distinctive character and becomes an uncritical thesaurus of differing opinions. The notes of Dr. Arnold show evidences of skill and experience as a teacher. They are brief, scholarly, informing, definite. If presented by themselves they would have been, if not a positive addition to the literature of the subject, a helpful guide to intelligent students. If the present editor had been permitted to write a commentary entirely his own or had used the material of the former writer only as subsidiary, he might have produced a better work. His contributions, however, do not seem to be characterized by the scientific method and exegetical tact of his predecessor. The theological position of the book is Calvinistic and Augustinian. The realistic view of Adam's relation to the race is maintained. The commentator shows his geographical habitat by his frequent references to the so-called "New Theology" and his note on the "decensus." Certain notes of the general editor, Dr. Hovey, scattered through the work, are helpful and convincing. Taking it all together the commentary will make some additions to the useful literature on this masterly epistle.